

United States Sentencing Commission

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Created under the provisions of the Comprehensive Crime Control Act of 1984, the United States Sentencing Commission is an independent agency in the judicial branch and is responsible for establishing guidelines for federal judges to use when sentencing organizations and individuals convicted of federal crimes. The Commission's initial guidelines, as well as the related provisions of the Crime Control Act, went into effect on November 1, 1987. The Commission is composed of seven members appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate. The United States Attorney General and the chair of the United States Parole Commission also serve on the Sentencing Commission as non-voting, ex-officio members.

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State Courts